Revenue (1943) Department

SERIES.

G.O. No. 210 2 10

Dated 30-1-46

[Despatch Abstract.]

Village Establishments - Systems in force in other Provinces Papers Recorded.

Back Papers.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department,	Date.

Further Papers.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
dlr	353	Rev	16-2-48				

CONFIDENTIAL. REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Letter No. 16 C/47-1 dated 4-1-47.

To:-

The Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Bengal, United Provinces, Punjab, Bihar, Central Provinces & Berar, Orissa, Sind, North West Frontier Province. — Revenue Department.

Sir,

Sub: Village establishments - Systems obtaining in other Provinces - Information.

The village establishments in this Province are governed by the ~~Province-are~~ provisions of two Acts viz: (1) the Madras Proprietary Estates Village Service Act, 1894, which applies the Village Establishmentin permanently settled estates, unsettled palayams, and inam villages and (2) the Madras Hereditary village offices Act, 1895 which applies to hereditary village ~~st~~ establishments in this Province. The question of abolishing the hereditary right to village offices conferred by the latter Act and of replacing generally the present village establishment system by a more efficient and economical one is at present engaging the attention of this Government. In this connection, the Government would like to have information regarding the village establishment systems obtaining in other Provinces. I am therefore to request that, if there be no objection, this Government may be furnished with the details of the village establishment system obtaining in the Province, of Bombay
Bengal
United Provinces.
Punjab
Bihar
Central Provinces & Berar.
Orissa.
Sind.
North West Frontier Province.

Y.O.S.
4-1-47.

/ true copy /-

No.0-76-H(a)/47.
Revenue Department.
Sind Secretariat.
Karachi, 9th February 1947.

To :

The Secretary to Government of Madras,
Revenue Department,
Fort St. George,
Madras.

Sub: Village Establishments - Systems obtaining in other Provinces - Information.

Reference your letter No. 16-0/46-1, dated the 4th January 1947, on the subject noted above.

2. In this province also there is an Act of 1881 called the Sind Village Officers Act (Bombay Act IV of 1881) but it has no connection with the existing Village establishment. Member of the Village establishment in Sind are paid Government servants and are designated as "Tapedars". Before their appointment they are deputed for training for a period of 12 months at the Tapedars' Training School. They are given charge of an area called a 'Tapa'. Their main duties relate to the recovery of land revenue and other Government dues. Their service is not hereditary.

Sd. x x x
FOR SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

/ true copy /

CONFIDENTIAL.

Lahore, Dated the 8th February 1947.

From:

Ashan-ud-Din, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Deputy Secretary to Government, Punjab,
Revenue Department.

To:

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Revenue Department, Fort St. George,.

Sub: Village establishments - Systems obtaining in other Provinces - information.

Sir,

With reference to your confidential letter No. 16-C/46-1 dated the 4th January, 1947, on the subject noted above, I am directed to state that in this Province the non-official village establishments consist of zaildars inamdars and lambardars. They are governed by the provisions of the Punjab Land Revenue Act, 1887, and the Rules made thereunder which are contained in the Punjab Land Revenue Administration Acts, Volume II. I am to add that detailed information on the subject is also contained in Chapter VIII of the Punjab Land Administration Manual.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
your most obedient servant,

Sd. x x x
Deputy Secretary to Government,
Punjab, Revenue Department.

true copy /

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

SYSTEM OF VILLAGE ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE PUNJAB.

The term "village officer" as used in the Punjab Land Revenue Act means a headman, chief headman and a patwari.

HEADMEN: They are chosen from among the landowners of the village. They hold office for life unless they resign or are dismissed. Except in the case of estates chiefly or wholly owned by Government much weight is attached to hereditary claim for appointments to the posts of headmen. If a substantive holder of the office is a minor or is unfit, a substitute is appointed after considering the wishes of the substantive holder. The duties of the headmen include (1) collection of land revenue (2) reporting about deaths of assignees and pensioners and these absent for over a year (3) reporting about encroachment on or injury to government property and (4) aiding in the prevention and detection of the crime.

Chief Headman: In each of the estates having several headmen, the chief headman was previously being appointed, with the object of lessening the inconveniences ceased by the existence of numerous headmen. Orders to be carried out by a headman may be addressed to the chief headmen and the latter is responsible for carrying out the orders.

It is generally held that the office of the chief headman serves no useful purpose. The posts are accordingly being abolished gradually.

A case at a rate not exceeding 12½ per cent on the land revenue and canal owner's rate is being collected for the remuneration of headmen and chief headmen. The headmen retains a surcharge of 5 per cent on the land revenue and canal owners' rate which he collects and 1 per cent is payable to the chief headmen if there is one. The balance used to be available for the remuneration of Patwari staff, but in 1906 the liability of the landowners for the pay of the patwari staff was abolished

PATWARIS: There are three grades of patwaris. The pay of each grade and the percentage of patwaris in each grade are as shown below:

I Grade	Rs. 26/- p.m.	20 per cent.
II Grade	Rs. 23/- p.m.	40 per cent.
III Grade	Rs.20/- p.m.	40 per cent.

Besides their pay, the patwaris receive a two-fifths share of the fees levied for the entry of mutations in the record of rights and are allowed to make certain small charges for allowing inspection of their records and giving certified extracts. Assistant Patwaris on Rs.15/- p.m. are appointed where work is heavy for or to fill up temporary leave vacancies.

Appointment of patwaris is on merits, that is to say the candidates should be young, of good physique and eye sight and should be able to write a neat and clear handwriting and to work out simple sums quickly and correctly. A pass in the Middle School examinations is generally insisted on and hereditary claims are ignored.

The patwaris duties include (1) the maintenance of a record of the crops grown at every harvest; (2) the keeping of the record of rights up to date by the punctual record of mutations,. and (3) the accurate preparation of statistical returns embodying the information derived from the harvest inspections register of mutations and record of rights.

Efficient patwaris are promoted to higher posts in the Revenue Department. Small reward are payable on retirement to well-conducted patwaris who have served for a long time.

Sd. x x x

28-2-47.

No. 569- 297/XII.

GOVERNMENT OF THE CENTRAL PROVINCES AND BERAR.
Revenue Department.

Dated, Nagpur, the 17th Feb~~1~~1947

From:

B.N. Kunte, Esq.,B.Sc.,LL.B.,
Under Secretary to Government,
Central Provinces and Berar.

To:

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Revenue Department,
Fort St. George, Madras.

Sub: Village establishment - Systems obtaining in other Provinces - Information.

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor of the Central Provinces and Berar to refer to your letter No. 16-C/46-1, dated the 4th January 1947 and to say that the following are the village officers in the Central Provinces and Berar and that the rules governing their appointment etc. are contained in the provision quoted against each:--

(A) Central Provinces:

Lambardar Lambardar-Gumashta,& Sardar Lumbardar; in Malguzari villages, Patel-in rayatwari villages.	Section 187 of the Central Provinces Land Revenue Act, 1917 (II of 1917) and rules framed thereunder. Section 209 of the Central Provinces Land Revenue Act, 1917(II of 1917) and rules framed thereunder.
Mukaddams or Mukaddam-Gumashtas.	Section 190 of the Central Provinces Land Revenue Act, 1917(II of 1917) and rules framed thereunder.
Kotwars or village watchmen.	Section 196 of the Central Provinces Land Revenue Act, 1917(II of 1917) and rules framed thereunder.
(B) Berar. Patel and Patwari.	Rules framed under section 21 (c) of the Berar Patel and Patwaris Law, 1900.
Jaglias, and village Mahars.	Rules framed under section 194(2) (g) of the Berar Land Revenue Code, 1928.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Sd.B.N. Kunte.

UNDER SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
Central Provinces and Berar,
Revenue Department.

GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL.
Land and Land Revenue Department.
(Land Revenue).

From:
Rai Sasadhar Das Gupta Bahadur, Addl. Secy. Board of Revenue and Ex-Officio Dy-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal,

To:
The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Revenue Department.

No. 1130 L.R.6M-10/47 dated Calcutta, the 18th February 1947.

Sub: Village establisnments - systems obtaining in other Provinces - Information.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 16 C/46-1. dated 4th January, 1947, on the above subject, I am directed to say that there is no village establishment system in this Province.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Sd. x x x
Addl. Secy. Board of Revenue &
Ex-Officio Dy.Secy. to the Govt.
of Bengal.

/ true copy /

From:

S.N.M. Tripathi, Esq.,M.A.,LL.B.,
Addl- Deputy Secretary to Government,
United Provinces.

To:

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Revenue Department.

Dated: Lucknow, February, 27, 1947.

Subject: Village establishments - System obtaining in United Provinces.

Sir,

With reference to Mr. Hejmadi's letter No. 16 C/46-1, dated Jan.4, 1947 on the above subject, I am directed to say that the village officers in U.P. consist of the following:

(1) Lambardars.
(2) Patwaris.
(3) Chaukidars.

2. Lambardars are responsible for the collection of the revenue of a mahal and are appointed in accordance with section 144 of the U.P. Land Revenue Act III of 1901. The patwaris are entrusted with the maintenance of land records and other villages papers and their appointment is governed by section 23 of the above Act, while Chaukidars perform primarily police duties in villages and are appointed ~~and are appointed~~ under section 3 to 6 of the N.W.P. Village and Road Police Act XVI of 1873 or section 29 to 32 of the Oudh Laws Act X III of 1876, Any other information which may be required in this connexion will be gladly furnished if sufficient indication is given of the nature thereof

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
Sd.S.N.M.Tripathi,
Addl.Deputy Secretary.

/ true copy /

Revenue Department.

To Letter No. 16 C/47-2 dated 12-3-47.

To:
The Secretary to the Government of Central P rovinces
and Berar,
Revenue Department, Nagpur.

Sir,

Sub: Village establishments - System obtaining in other Provinces - Your letter No. 569-297/XIII dated 17-2-47.

I am directed to state that it is not possible to form clear idea of the nature of the village establishments in the Central Provinces by a reference to the C.P. Land Revenue Act, 1917, and the rules framed thereunder. The rules regarding the village establishments in Berar, referred to in your letter quoted above are not available here. I am, therefore, to request that, if there be no objection this Government may be favoured with a short note on the system of village establishments obtaining in the C.P. and Berar.

Y.O.S.
12-3-47.

/ true copy /

No.3550- REV.

From:

The Secretary to Government, N.W.F.P.,
Revenue Department.

To:

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Revenue Department.
Dated PESHAWAR the 8th April 1947.

Sub: V illage Establishments - systems obtaining in other Provinces - Information

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the correspondence ending with your letter No. 16-C/47-3, dated the 18-3-1947 and to say that until recently the village establishment has consisted of the following:

(1) Patwari.
(2) Village Headman (Lambardars).
(3) Inamdar
(4) Zaildar.
(5) Chaukidar.

2. Recently the post of Patwari has been declared Pensionable and brought on the District Revenue Establishment, the Inamdar and Zaildar System has been discontinued and in one of the District of the Province, the system of Lambardari has been abolished as an experiment and not replaced by any other village establishment.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
Sd. x x x
for Secretary to Government, N.W.F.P.,
Revenue Department.

/ true copy /

No.1390-1555-XII. dated 20-5-47

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CENTRAL PROVINCES AND BERAR,
Revenue Department.

From:

B.N.Kunte, Esquire, B.Sc.,LL.B.,
Under Secretary to Government,
Central Provinces and Berar.

To:

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Revenue Department,
Fort St. George, M a d r a s.

Sub: Village establishments systems obtaining in other Provinces.

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor of the Central Provinces and Berar to refer to your letter No. 16-C/47-2, dated the 12th March 1947 and to enclose a note on the existing system of Village establishments obtaining in these Provinces.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant

Sd.B.N. Kunte,
Under Secretary to Government,
Central Provinces and Berar,
Revenue Department.

/ true copy /

VILLAGE OFFICERS IN CENTRAL PROVINCES AND BERAR.

The following are the village officers in the Central Provinces and Berar:--

(A) Central Provinces:

Lambardar,
Lambardar-gumashta & Sadar Lambardar. — In Malguzari villages.
Patel — In raiyatwari villages.

Mukaddams or Mukaddam gumashta.

Kotwar or village watchman.

(B) B E R A R:

Patel:
Patwari-
Jaglia.
Village mahar.

The rules regarding appointment etc. of the above villages officers are as follows:

Lambardar, Lambardar-gumashta and Sadar Lambardar in Central Provinces:-

2. In malguzari villages in the Central Provinces for each mahal one or more lambardars are appointed to perform the duties and exercise the powers conferred on a Lambardar by the Land Revenue Act of the province. If a lambardar is a minor or unfit to perform the duties of the office through any infirmity of body or mind, or is a female, a Lambardar gumashta is appointed to perform the duties of the Lambardar. Also if there are in any mahal more lambardars than one, one of such lambardars is appointed to be the Sadar lambardar whose duty it is to collect from the lambardars the land revenue assessed on the mahal and pay it to Government.

sadar-lambardars
ules framed under
under:-

icer exercising
e following

(a) If the record-of-rights of a mahal prescribes the manner in which the lambardar is to be selected, the selection shall be made in that manner:

(b) If the record-of-rights contains no provisions applicable to the case, the Revenue Officer, in selecting a person for the office, shall have regard to:--

(i) local custom, if any, be ascertainable,
(ii) the hereditary claims of and the interest possessed in the mahal by the candidates, and
(iii) the wishes of the co-sharers whom the lambardar is to represent and the interest possessed by them.

II. In selecting a sadar-Lambardar, such Revenue Officer, shall have regard to the interest possessed in the mahal by the candidates, to the wishes of the lambardars and to the interest represented by them.

A person unfitted by reason of character, mental infirmity or financial position to perform the duties of the office of lambardar and sadar-lambardar is not appointed to that post.

III, In appointing a lambardar-gumashta the Revenue Officer shall, except for reasons to be recorded in writing, accept the nomination made by the lambardar, or if the

/2.

lambardar be a minor, by his guardian.

4. A sadar-lambardar, lambardar or lambardar-gumashta, may be removed from his office by the Deputy Commissioner on the application of any proprietor or of his own motion, on the following grounds:--

(a) on his ceasing to have a proprietary interest in the mahal or patti; or
(b) for bad character or gross misconduct; or
(c) for neglect or improper discharge of the duties imposed on him under the Act or under any other enactment for the time being in force; or
(d) for negligent or improper exercise of his powers.

No lambardar or sadar-lambardar is, however, removed from his office until he has been given an opportunity by a notice in wirting to show cause against his removal.

5. It shall be the duty of every lambardar:--
Duties of lambardars:--

(a) to collect and pay into the Government treasury, or if a sadar-lambardar, has been appointed, to the sadar-lambardar, much of the land revenue as may be payable through him;

(b) to collect and pay to the mukuddam, or into the Government treasury, as the Deputy Commissioner may direct, all sums of money payable through him, wither solely or jointly with other lambardars, by the proprietors of the mahal or patti for which he is appointed, on account of the remuneration of the mukkaddam or village-watchmen, or on account of any expenses which the mukaddam is authorised to recover from the lambardars of his village;

(c) to assist the mukaddam in obtaining all particulars which he is bound to report under the Act or any other enactment for the time being in force.

POWERS OF LAMBARDARS:

6. The lambardars, shall, in the mahal or patti for which he is appointed,
(a) be deemed to be the landlord;
(b) exercise the powers of the proprietors in matters relating to the village abadi and the enjoyment of their rights and privileges by tenants and others over the waste land of the village, including the grazing of the cattle thereon;
(c) collect the village profits and render an account of the same to the proprietors within six months of the close of the agricultural year; and
(d) if necessary, institute suits and take other proceedings relating to the exercise of aforesaid powers and against trespassers on the common property.

Remuneration of lambardar, Lambardar-gumashtas & Mukaddams:

7. (a) The remuneration of the lambardar, lambardar-gumashta and mukaddam is fixed by the Deputy Commissioner and is recoverable by the lambardar from the proprietors of the mahal or patti for which he is appointed. The sum so payable by any proprietor does not exceed five per cent on the land revenue which is assessed on his land, or if the land is held wholly or partly free of revenue, on the kamil-jama of each land; but no such recovery is made from a malik-makbuza.
(b) If a lambardar is not mukaddam, he has to pay to the mukaddam such sum as may be fixed by the Deputy Commissioner. The sum so payable does not exceed five per cent on the land revenue payable by him as lambardar, or, if such revenue is wholly or party assigned, on the kami-jama.

PATEL in Raiyatwari Villages:

8. In ever raiyatwari village one of the raiyats is appointed to be the patel, who in the opinion of the officer empowered to make the appointment will, best advance the welfare of the village, and in deciding this reggrd is had to the following:

(a) capacity to perform the duties laid down by the Land Revenue Act.
(b) the wishes of the raiyats, and
(c(hereditary claims.

In raiyatwari villages with majority of the pupulation composed of aboriginal tribes, a member of the aboriginal tribe is appointed to be the patel of the village.

9. The patel is charged with the duty of collection and payment into the Government treasury of the land revenue assessed on the survey numbers or land of his village and other Government dues of reporting on certain matters relating to his village and of maintaining certain village statistics.

10. The patel is paid commission at the rate of one to three annas in the rupee on the amount of collections made through him.

MUKADDAMS AND MUKADDAM - GUMASHTAS.

11. A mukaddam is appointed for every village or with the sanction of Government for a group of villages. A mukkadam is ordinarily a lambardar or patel; and one of the following is appointed mukaddam in the order mentioned:

(a) a resident sadar-lambardar;
(b) failing him, a resident lambardar;
(c) failing him,resident co-sharer;
(d) failing him, any person, including a non-resident sadar-lambardar, lambardar or co-sharer.

No person is approved or appointed for the post of mukadam-gumashta who-

(a) is a minor or a woman, or
(b) is,in the Revenue Officer's opinion, of bad character, or
(c) is, in the Revenue Officer's opinion, unfit through infirmity of body or mind or for any other reason to discharge the duties of the post, or
(d) is not permanently resident in the village if it is an inhabited village.

12. A mukaddam or mukaddam gumashta may be removed from his office by a Revenue Officer not below rank of Tahsildar on his own motion or on the application of a lambardar or mukaddam for disobedience of orders, neglect of duty, incompetence or bad character; but no mukaddam or mukaddam-gumashta is so removed until he has had oppurtinity of showing cause against such removal.

13. Every mukaddam has to control and superintendent the village watchman, to collect or aid in the collection of all payments due to Government in his village, to look to the sanitation of and maintenance of law and order in the village and other matters concerning village administration and to submit certain reports about occurrences in the village to the officers to whom they are due.

14. The remuneration of mukaddams is provided for as described in paragraph 7 above.

KOTWARS OR VILLAGE WATCHMEN IN GENTRAL PROVINCES.

15. For each village or group of villages there is appointed one or more kotwars or village watchmen. No person is eligble for the post who is a woman, is, in the opinion of the officer making the appointment, of bad character or unfit through infirmi of body or mind to perform the duties of the post. The appoint.

ment of kotwars a-T rests with the Deputy Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner, a Tahsildar or Naib-Tahsildar specially empowered by the Deputy Commissioner on this behalf. On a vacancy occurring in the post of village watchman the Revenue Officer exercising the power of appointment selects a successor who, if possible, should be the nearest relative of the previous incumbent.

16. A village watchman is liable to be dismissed by a Revenue Officer not below the rank of a Tahsildar on the report of the mukaddam or of his own motion on any of the following grounds:

(i) that he is of bad character.
(ii) that he is unfit through infirmity of body or mind, to perform the duties of the post;
(iii) for wilful breach of rule,
(iv) for alienation of service land.

17. It is the duty of the village watchman to reside in the village for which he is appointed and to keep watch and ward over the houses and property of villagers; to assist in the maintenance of law and order and to report to the mukaddam or mukaddam-gumashta and also to the officer in charge of the ~~police~~ police station the occurrence in or near the village of any sudden or unnatural deaths; cases of epidemic diseases, births and deaths within the village and reports regarding other matters affecting his village. The village watchman has also to assist the mukaddam or mukaddam-gumashta of the village in the performance of the duties imposed upon them connected with the maintenance of survey marks, reporting of unauthorized use of Government forest lands, enforcing rules for village sanitation and to assist the lambardar, sadar-lambardar and Government officers visiting the village in the discharge of their duties.

18. The remuneration payable to kotwars is regulated by the rules framed under the Land Revenue Act. It is fixed by the Survey Officer at settlement and is ordinarily not less than Rs.48/- per year. In villages other than raiyatwari the remuneration is provided for by the assessment of a yearly rate, not exceeding one anna in the rupee or such higher rate as the Commissioner may sanction in special cases to be assessed on the rental valuation or rental of land held by proprietors, malik-makbuzas and tenants. In raiyatwari villages, ¼th of the remuneration is contributed by Government in the shape either of a revenue free holding or of a drawback from the revenue of the village; the balance of the remuneration being realizable from the patel and raiyats at a rate on the revenue payable by them to be fixed by theDeputy Commissioner at a rate not exceeding one anna per rupee of revenue or with the sanction of the Commissioner, not exceeding two annas per rupeeof revenue. Also every resident of a village who is in receipt of an annual non-agricultural income of not less than Rs.200/- is assessed at a yearly rate not exceeding -/4/- per Rs.100/- of such income subject to a maximum assessment of Rs.12/-

(B) B E R A R.

PATELS AND PATWARIS IN BERAR?

19. The posts of patels and patwaris in Berar are hereditary and the law provides that in making the appointments the Deputy Commissioner shall have regard to the following matters:--

(a) the Law of Inheritance applicable to the family by which the office is held;
(b) the custom which has regulated previous tenure of the office, and
(c) the physical, moral, mental and educational fitness of the person having any ~~le~~ claim to the office, and shall not appoint a woman if a male relative of the late incumbent of the office exist.

It is an ordinary condition of appointment to the office of Patel or Patwari that the person appointed shall, unless such

such person is a minor or a woman, personally perform the duties of the office; wherever exemption from personal service is permitted the duties are assigned to a " substitute" Patil or Patwari as the case may be.

20. The Deputy Commissioner may suspend a Patel or Patwari from Office during enquiry into alleged misconduct, and may punish him for misconduct or neglect in the performance of his duties by suspension from office for a period not exceeding six months or by fine not exceeding one fourth of the annual emoluments of his Office.

The Deputy Commissioner may also suspend or dismiss a substitute for any misconduct or negelect, and may, with the sanction of the Commissioner, dismiss from office a Patel or Patwari in case of fraud, the wilful framing of incorrect records habitual neglect of duty, or other grave misconduct.

21. I. The duties of patels are two-fold.. revenue and police. The duties of revenue patels are collection of land revenue and other Government dues and their remittance to the tahsil treasu maintenance of survey marks, inspection of crops, and seeing tha the patwari prepares the returns properly; to submit certain reports on matters concerning his village, to promote education, to assist the vaccinators in getting children for vaccination; to control the village officers and servants in his village and to see that they do not neglect their duty; etc.

The duties of police patels relate to sanitation and villa prevention and detection of crime, collection of vital statistic e.g. births and deaths etc; supply of provisions and transport to public servants visiting the village on duty; and to submit reports about certain other occurrences affecting his village.

(II) The patwari, as village accountsnt, keeps a correct record of all payments of revenue and other dues, and maintains and keeps in safety and good order all accounts, records, and statistics of the village in the form from time to time prescribed. He also assists the patel in the discharge of his duties and in writing such orders and reports as the patel may require, and resides within his circle, except when with the written permission of the Deputy Commissioner, he is allowed to reside elsewhere. The patwari shall also be responsible that every payment of revenue or other dues is duly entered in the raiyat's receipt book, and shall attend to all duties required of the revenue or the police patel in cases of emergency or during their absence.

22. The remuneration payable to the patels and patwaris is calculated on the amount of Land revenue fixed at Jamabandi at the following rates:--

On the 1st	Rs.1000	of Land	revenue	: 5 %.
- do - 2nd	"1000	- do -	- do -	: 4 %
-do- 3rd	"1000	- do -	- do -	: 3 %
- do - 4th	"1000	- do -	- do -	: 2%

and at one percent on any further amount. Similarly certain percentage is also allowed on forest collections, nazul revenue, income tax collections and district council cesses etc. In view of the increased cost of living, the rates at which the remuneration payable to the patels and patwaris on land revenue and nazul revenue is to be calculated, have been temporarily increased as under with effect from the revenue year 1944-45:--

On the 1st	Rs.1000	of Land	revenue	: 8 %
-do- 2nd	" 1000	- do-	- do -	: 6 %
- do- 3rd	" 1000	-do -	- do -	: 4%
- do - 4th	"1000	- do -	- do -	: 2½ %
- do - 5th	"1000	- do -	- do -	: 1¼%
		and above.		

JAGLIAS AND VILLAGE MAHARS IN BERAR.

23. Jaglias are appointed in all the taluqs of Berar except the Melghat taluq according to the scale prescribed by Law. No jaglia is appointed for villages having a population below 1400 while those with a population of between 14009 to 3000 have one jaglia and 2 jaglias are appointed in villages having a population of more than 3000. The number of village mahars in any village is determined by the Deputy Commissioner and can be varied from time to time.

24. No person is eligible for the post of jaglia or village mahar who:--

(a) is a woman or a minor;
(b) is not of good character and antecedents;
(c) is unfit through infirmity of body or mind to perform the duties of the post.

When a post of jaglia falls vacant, the police patel nominates a successor, but the appointment has to be approved of by the Tahsildar. Village mahars are appointed by revenue patels but their appointment is liable to revision by the Tahsildar to the application from the aggrieved party or on his own motion.

25. A jaglia or a village mahar may be suspended or dismissed by the Tahsildar on any of the following grounds;

(i) being of bad character, or serious misconduct or neglect of duties.
(ii) wilful breach of rules.

The ~~rule~~ Tahsildar may also fine a village mahar on the above grounds.

26. The principal duties of jaglias are:

(a) to supervise the village watch and ward and accompany the mahars on night rounds;
(b) to see that all crimes are reported to the patel;
(c) to take the weekly report to the police station in turn with the mahar or mahars allotted for the purpose;
(d) to report vital statistics and outbreaks of epidemics with the assistance of the mahar or mahars set aside for the purpose;
(e) to assist in the collection of land revenue;
(f) generally to carry out the patel's orders and supervise the work of the mahars.

It is the duty of the village mahar to reside in his village and to keep watch and ward over the house and property of the villagers and to patrol the village at night. He has also to assist in the private defence of person or property; to carry certain reports regarding village statistics to the police station and to the tahsil; to assist in the collection of land revenue and in ~~in~~ enforcing the rules for village sanitation; to carry messages for village and revenue officers; and to carry out the revenue and police patel's orders in all official matters The village mahar also escorts money to the tahsil, attends to the disposal of unclaimed corpses and removal of bodies of dead animals and does other duties relating to village administration.

27. The remuneration of jaglias and village mahars in Berar is determined by the Provincial Government and is provided for by the levy of a cess prescribed under statutory provisions. The rate at which the cess is to be recovered has been fixed at 24 pies in the rupee of the amount of fair assessment of each survey

number. The remuneration of village mahars is Rs.8/- per mensem and that of jaglias varies from place to place and ranges between Rs.10/- to Rs.12/- per mensem. These rates were fized in 1924 and 1921 respectively. In view of the increased cost of living a dearness allowance of Rs.4/- per mensem to jaglias and full time mahars and of Rs.2/- per mensem to part time mahars has been sanctioned since the year 1943, as a temporary measure.

/tpue copy /

No. 3736/46-F. 18
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.
Bombay Castle, 2nd September 1947.

From:

V.N. Sardesai, Esquire, I. C. S.,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Revenue Department-

To:

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Revenue Department.

Sub: Village Establishments, Bombay Province. System of- prevailing in.

-.-

Sir,

With reference to your letter, No. 166/46-1, dated 4th January 1947, I am directed to forward herewith a Note on the system of village establishments prevalent in this Province.

Your obedient servant,
Sd.S.N. Navalkar,
FOR SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF
BOMBAY, Revenue Department.

/ true copy /

i) the Bombay Land Revenue Code, 1879.
ii) the Bombay Hereditary Offices Act, 1874.
and
iii) the Bombay Village Police Act.

The enactments at (i) and (iii) relate to stipendiary appointments of village officers e-g- Revenue and Police Patels and the enactment at (ii) regulates the appointments of watandar patels, kulkarnis and the inferior village servants. As regards the working of the village establishments it may be stated that each officer is assigned specific duties the details of which are as mentioned below:--

CIRCLE OFFICER AND CIRCLE INSPECTOR :

In order to assist the mamlatdar in exercising proper supervision over the village officers and village servants and to make local enquiries of every kind promptly, officers of the grade of awal karkun called circle officers and circle inspectors are appointed. The Circle officer, is invested generally with III class magisterial powers. He certifies entries in record of rights, tries madat and vahivat suits and thus relieves the mamlatdar of a good deal of routine inspection of village accounts and other work. There are some 30 to 50 villages in charge of the circle officers or circle inspectors. These officers form a link between the mamlatdar, mahalkaris and the village officers. There are generally at least one circle officer and two circle inspectors in each taluks. The duties of a circle inspector and circle officer relate to:

1) boundary marks inspection, inspection of crops including the estimating of their annewari, the inspection of tagai works and detection of illegal occupation of land
2) preparation of agricultural and other statistical reports viz. T.F. XX crop statistics; T.F.XXII cattle census, and T.F. XXIII, water supply.
3) supervision of the village officers in the preparation and maintenance of the record of rights, the mutation register and the tenancy register.
4) examination of rayats' receipt books and supervision of the revenue collection, and
5) such other miscellaneous work as the mamlatdar may from time to time entrust him with, e.g., inquiry into an alleged encroachment.
6) procurement of grain according to levy list and fulfilment of the levy purchases of foodgrains from the levy khatedars and storing the foodgrains to the godowns.

The measurements and fixation of boundary marks of survey numbers and the partitions of survey numbers in execution of civil court decrees, or otherwise used to be done by the circle inspector, but is now entrusted to the cadastral surveyors working directly under the district inspector of land records.

VILLAGE HEADMAN.

The patel is the principal official in a village. In the works of the early English writers he is called the headman of the village. "Elphinstone says",-The patels are the most important functionaries in the villagers and perhaps the most important class in the country. They hold their office by a grant from the Government (Generally that of the Moguls), are entitled in vitrue of it to lands and fees and have various privileges and distinctions of which they are as tenancious as of their land. Their office and emoluments are hereditary. The patel is also generally the head of the village police and as such is responsible for the administration of justice and for the maintenance of law and order in his village. Though originally the agent to Government, he is now looked upon as also the representative of the rayats.

The duties of the patel fall under the following heads:

1) Revenue

2) Quasi magisterial.
3) Administrative.

His Revenue duties are:--

i) In conjunction with the village accountant to collect the revenue due to Government from the rayats.

ii) to detect encroachments of Government land and protect trees and other property of Government.

iii) to execute the orders received from the taluka office in connection with recovery of the revenue and other matters.

iv) to get the village accountant to maintain properly the ~~vill~~ record of rights and other village accounts and to get him to submit the periodical returns punctually, and

v) to render assistance to high officials visiting the village for inspection work or other purposes.

The quasi-magisterial functions appertain to the police patel. In a majority of villages the same person is both the police and revenue patel. The police patel is responsible for the writing up of the birth and death register and for the care of unclaimed property found in the village, He has also:--

i) to report the occurrence of crimes in the village to the officer in charge of the police station;
ii) to hold and inquest in case of unnatural or sudden death.
iii) to arrest any person, who, he may have reason to believe has committed any serious offence and to forward such person to the nearest police station for further action, and
iv) to pursue and carry cut any search of suspected criminals under certain safeguards.

He cantry and, on conviction, punish with confinement in the village chavdi for a period not exceeding 24 hours any person charged with committing, with in the limits of the village petty assault or abuse. He can at his option punish a convicted person with fine not exceeding Rs.2/- and in default confinement for not more than 12 hours in the village chavdi;

He can also try the following offences when specially empowered by the district magistrate--

i) mischief or petty theft when the estimated value of the property stolen or of damages sustained does not exceed Rs.2/-.and
ii) Resistance or refusal to obey lawful orders personally issued by him.

As regards the patel's administrative duties, he is expected to look to village sanitation and public health. He must also report promptly the outbreak of any epidemic diseases to the taluks office. He is also expected to render every assistance to travellers provided payment is duly tendered.

He must also assist the talathi and circle officer or circle inspector in purchasing foodgrains from the levy khatedars of his village.

VILLAGE ACCOUNTANT.

In the Deccan and Karnatic the office of the accountant used generally to be held by hreditary kulkarnis. From 1914 onwards hereditary kukarnis have been allowed, subject to certain conditions to commute the right of service, attached to the kulkarniki watan. There are now stipendiary talathis wherever such commutation has taken place. In the Central Division districts this substitution of talathis for kulkarnis has been general in all districts except Sholapur, where the nurber of kulkarnis is still considerable. Government has since decided to liquidate the Kulkarniki watans by encouraging commutation of service right and conversion of watan lands into rayatwari tenure lands. This policy is being implemented. The Kulkarnis are intended to be substituted by stipendiary talatis. The main duties of the village accountant are:

1) to maintain village accounts relating to demand collection and arrears, the record of rights and all other village forms prescribed by Government.

2) to inspect crops and boundary marks and prepare agricultural statistics and levy lists.

3) to help the patel in the collection of land revenue, write the combined day and receipt books and other accounts and do other clerical works, including that of police patel when he is illiterate.

4) to procure the food grains from the levy khatedars according to levy lists by purchasing foodgrain on behalf of Government.

INFERIOR VILLAGE SERVANTS.

The classes of inferior village servants useful to Government include the following:

Mahar	Bhangis	Vartanias	Talwars-
Jaglia	Madhavis	Talbades	Kolkars
Dheds,	Ramoshis	Kolis	Ugranis.
Vethias	Ravanias	Sanadis	Barkers.
		Walikars.	

They are usually hereditary except in Gujarat where they are stipendiary inferior village servants. Many of the inferior village servants are part-time servants.

The mahars and jaglias are the most important. They have duties towards both Government and the people. Besides the profits or their watan lands these inferior village servants receive ~~taluk~~ baluta (remuneration in kind) from the rayats.

The duties of the mahars towards Government are:

1) to call up the rayats to make payments of land revenue and other Government dues, at the chavdi.
2) otherwise to assist the village officers in the collection of Government revenue.
3) to take remittances to the Government treasury.
4) to render as istance in measurement work.
5) to make enquiries regarding births and deaths in the village.
6) to carry village officers post to and from the taluka kacheri-
7) to keep a watch over village boundaries and the boundaries of individual fields.
8) to publish Government orders in the village by beat of drum.
9) to help police in accidental deaths and fires and outbreaks of epidemics and epizootics.

The duties of jagalias towards Government are:--

1) to assist the police patel in his duties.
2) to patrol the village at night
3) to accompany the mahar to the Government treasury with remittances,
4) to watch the camps of the district officers when they encamp at the village on tour and
5) to render assistance to village officers in the discharge of their duties, especially their police duties.

The duties of the other inferior village servants denominated above are quite the same as stated above. They are defined in Government Resolution, Revenue Department, No. 7400/33, dated 13th September 1938. The question of ameliorating the service conditions of the inferior village servants is being considered by Government.

/ true copy /

Finance (Reorganisation) Department

(Notes on pp.1-3 above may be perused). In connection with the question of reorganising the present system of village Administration, under consideration in this Department, Revenue Department have obtained information relating to the village establishment systems in the Provinces of Sind Punjab (prior to bifurcation) Bengal (prior to bifurcation), North West Frontier and in the United Provinces and the Central Provinces and Berar and sent it to this Department.

2. The main features of the village establishment systems in the above Provinces have been noted in the statement at flag (L). The proposal under consideration of this Government is that the present village system together with the hereditary principle attached to it may be replaced by a more efficient and economic system. The main feature of the provincial scheme is that in the place of the existing Karnam (village Accountant) and the Headman (Village Munsif) only one village officer possessing better educational qualifications will be employed with only one village servant under him.

It does not seem that the details obtained from the Provinces referred to above will be of much use in the examination of the proposal under consideration:--
The papers may be added on the main file.

Sd. x x x
25-8-47.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

TO A.S.

This file has been received back from Finance (Reorganisation Department along with the main file on the question of reorganising the present system of village establishments.

2. In view of the remarks at the foot of the previous page and for the sake of convenience of reference these papers may be recorded separately as a G.O.

G.O.Ms.No.210, dated 30-1-48.

Abstract:

Village Establishments.
Systems in force in other Provinces - Recorded.

Sd. x x x
30-1-48.

/ true copy /

S. Jayaraman
30.3.54
Office Assistant,
MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.